

out uplift the Middle Class and assure dignity for workers. We must also hold to account those whose reckless disregard endangers the lives and wellbeing of workers.

While progress has been made, there is still much more to be done. The loss of even one worker is one loss too many. Congress and the Administration must recommit itself to delivering the reforms that vigorously protect workers from harm, in every workplace across America, each and every day.

On this solemn day, may the memories of those lost be lifted up in remembrance, and may their legacies of service be cherished forevermore.

HONORING MS. KAYING YANG ON HER APPOINTMENT TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ASIAN AMERICANS, NATIVE HAWAIIANS, AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2022

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Ms. KaYing Yang for being appointed to the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders by President Joseph R. Biden. On February 14, 2022, Ms. Yang was sworn in as one of 25 commissioners, bringing a variety of personal and professional experience and expertise to the President's commission.

The daughter of May Yia Yang, a farm girl, and Chia Chu Yang, who was a Lieutenant Colonel in the CIA's Special Guerilla Unit (SGU) during the Secret War in Laos, Ms. Yang was among the first Hmong women to graduate from college in the United States in the mid-1980s. She earned her B.A. in Sociology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. For more than two decades, Ms. Yang has been a passionate advocate for social justice who has built and led campaigns to address community issues locally, nationally and globally including her very important work to support gender equity, education opportunity, and advocacy for refugee families.

When she was just 25 years old, Ms. Yang became the executive director of the Women's Association of Hmong and Lao (WAHL), one of the first two women's organizations founded by Hmong-American women in Minnesota. Later she served as executive director of the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC), the oldest national advocacy organization for refugees who resettled in the United States from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam after 1975. During this time Ms. Yang worked with various international development groups in Laos including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to resettle 15,000 Hmong refugees to the United States and other countries, and later aided Karen refugees with resettlement on the Thai-Burma border.

In 2008, she began working for the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to advance policies to improve the investment climate for private sector investment in Laos. While in Laos, she founded the first Hmong women's organization to ensure development resources

reached minority women and people who moved from remote areas to urban areas.

After her return to Minnesota, Ms. Yang worked for the Coalition of Asian American Leaders (CAAL), and led a broad cross-racial coalition to pass the All Kids Count Act in Minnesota in 2016, a bill which requires that students' ethnicity be included in data collected to enable policy makers to direct resources to the most impacted communities. She was also instrumental to passing legislation in 2017 that created a nonprofit grant program for small nonprofits led by leaders of color that serve historically underserved communities.

Ms. Yang and her fellow commissioners advise the President on ways the public, private, and non-profit sectors can work together to advance equity and opportunity for every AANHPI community. The Commission also advises on policies to address anti-Asian hate, xenophobia and violence—timely work given the recent rise in violence against our Asian-American neighbors. Further, they will find ways to build capacity in AANHPI communities through federal grantmaking and policies to address barriers facing AANHPI women, LGBTQ+ people, and people with limited English proficiency and disabilities.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the phenomenal work Ms. KaYing Yang and congratulating her on this appointment to the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. Since finding refuge with her family in America at the age of 7, Ms. Yang has exhibited outstanding devotion to improving the lives of members of the Hmong and Asian-American communities.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL A. FINNEY, PRESIDENT, AND CEO OF THE MIAMI-DADE BEACON COUNCIL

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2022

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the extraordinary life of Michael A. Finney. Michael was a pillar in the business community in Miami-Dade County and known around the country for his ability to conduct business and spur economic growth. On a personal level, Michael was a dear friend and I will always cherish the time we spent together and the projects that we worked on for the people of Miami-Dade County during my tenure as Mayor. Lourdes and I send our prayers to his wife and children, Gina, Michael Jr., Marcus, and Austin.

Known by many as an "intellectual," Michael was brilliant, and more importantly, a deeply caring person. He dedicated his life to serving communities from his time in Michigan to his time in Miami-Dade County. One of his many initiatives, Miami Community Ventures, sought to help individuals from low-income neighborhoods and pair them with employers to help them earn a living wage. This is just one example of how Michael wanted to bring economic prosperity to everyone he could reach.

Michael was an incredible businessman and embodied the American entrepreneurial spirit. He helped navigate the largest municipal re-

structuring of debt in the United States during his time in Michigan and played a key role in Miami-Dade's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although he was not an elected official, he was truly a public servant.

The Miami-Dade County community will mourn the loss of Michael A. Finney; husband, father, grandfather, friend, and businessman.

GOLDEN HIGH SCHOOL ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nia Napuli, Kyra Jordan, Berlin Sandberg, and Vanessa Haggard for earning the Rookie of the Year Award in the 2022 Congressional App Challenge.

As first-time participants in the challenge, this team from Golden High School built an app entitled "Peridos" to assist and provide a safe space for female students to track their menstrual cycles as well as include other helpful resources and information for its users.

The students spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn about coding and app development while developing new skills and further advancing their STEM education. Their perseverance and dedication to this challenge exemplifies the character and determination the faculty instills in the students at the school and the students' commitment to being lifelong learners.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nia Napuli, Kyra Jordan, Berlin Sandberg, and Vanessa Haggard for their hard work on this project. I wish each student the best in all their future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would apply the District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977 (DCHRA) to employees of the local D.C. courts and of the D.C. Public Defender Service (PDS). In February, the D.C. Court of Appeals held in *Robertson v. District of Columbia* that the DCHRA, which protects employees of the D.C. government and of private employers from discrimination, does not apply to employees of the local D.C. courts. The court has not ruled on the applicability of the DCHRA to PDS employees.

The local D.C. courts and PDS are unique entities, and they sometimes fall through the regulatory cracks. They are neither federal nor D.C. government entities, though both were created and are funded by Congress, and their employees are treated as federal employees for some employee benefits. This bill